

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9446

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, KS

SUBJ: LAW CONTROLLING FORMER COMMUNIST PRISONERS

1. PRESS APRIL 15 REPORTS THAT GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING PASSING LEGISLATION TO RESTRICT ACTIVITIES OF EX-CONVICT VIOLATORS OF ANTI-COMMUNIST AND NATIONAL SECURITY LAWS, EVEN AFTER THEY ARE RELEASED FROM PRISON. NEW LAW REPORTEDLY WILL BE PASSED DURING SPECIAL NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION IN MAY.
2. PROVISIONS OF LAW AS REPORTED INCLUDE REQUIREMENT THAT FORMER PRISONERS REPORT CHANGES OF RESIDENCE IN ADVANCE OF MOVING AND PERMIT DETENTION TO PREVENT SOCIAL DISRUPTION IN TIME OF NATIONAL CRISIS. LAW COULD ALSO BE APPLIED TO THOSE WHO HAVE COMMITTED VIOLENT CRIMES.
3. YUCHONGHOE ASSEMBLYMAN HAS CONFIRMED TO US THAT GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED ABOUT RELEASE OF THOUSANDS COMMUNISTS AND COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZERS IN JAIL SINCE KOREAN WAR PERIOD. ASSEMBLYMAN SAID GOVERNMENT BELIEVES EX-CONVICTS STILL IDEOLOGICALLY COMMITTED TO COMMUNISM AND THUS REPRESENT THREAT TO SOCIETY WHICH REQUIRES NEW

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LEGISLATION. SOURCE SAID GOVERNMENT HOPES FOR OPPOSITION

PARTICIPATION IN SPECIAL ASSEMBLY SESSION.

4. IN CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS REPORTS THAT GOVERNMENT
IS PLANNING UNILATERAL PASSAGE NEW ANTI-DEMONSTRATION
LAWS IN NEXT ASSEMBLY SESSION, MEDIA APRIL 15 QUOTES DRP
POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN PAK CHUN-KYU AS STATING
THAT GOVT CONSIDERING NO LEGISLATION EXCEPT THAT
PERTAINING TO FORMER PRISONERS.
SNEIDER

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